

Oundle and Thrapston Rural
District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1948.

A. McINNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Oundle and Thrapston Rural
District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1948.

A. McINNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

INDEX.

	<i>Page</i>
Ambulance Facilities	7
Area	5
Births	5
Census	5
Cleansing, Public	13
Deaths	5
Diphtheria Anti-toxin	6
Diphtheria Immunisation	23
Drainage and Sewerage	13
Factories Act	14
Food and Drugs Act	19
Food Hygiene	18
Food—Inspection and Supervision of Food Premises	18 to 20
Health Services, General Provisions of	6
Housing	15 to 18
Ice-Cream	20
Infant Mortality	5
Laboratory Facilities	6
Measles	21
Meat and Food Inspection	19
Milk Examination	19
Milk and Dairies Orders	19
Moveable Dwellings	14
National Assistance Act	7
Natural and Social Conditions	5
Notifiable Diseases	22
Nursing in the Home	7
Polio-myelitis	22
Populations	5
Sanitary Officers	3
Sanitary Circumstances ... ..	...8 to 14
Schools	14
Statistical Tables ... ..	... 21, 22
Tuberculosis	24
Water Supply ... ..	... 8 to 12

Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

<i>Chairman of the Council</i>	...	...	...	...	A. FLETTON, Esq.
<i>Vice-Chairman of the Council</i>	...	...	...	...	W. WOODIN, Esq.
<i>Chairman, Public Health Committee</i>			...	...	L. BAXTER, Esq.
<i>Vice-Chairman, Public Health Committee</i>	...		...	...	W. G. BROWN, Esq.

<i>Clerk of the Council</i>	H. H. HASSALL.
-----------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----------------

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	...	A. McINNES, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
<i>Sanitary Inspectors</i>	...	S. PARGETER, C.R.S.I. B. LEWIS, M.R.S.I., A.I.Hsg.

<i>Surveyor and Water Engineer</i>	F. T. JENNINGS, A.I.A.S.
------------------------------------	-----	-----	--------------------------

COUNCIL OFFICES,
THRAPSTON,
KETTERING.

July, 1949.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report for the district is given herewith. The Statistics, so far as they are an index to the health of the community, are quite satisfactory. The amenities—good housing, good piped water and good sewerage—may not as yet have reached all the villages, but schemes for them all have been considered and may soon be put into effect if labour conditions and commodity markets permit the cost.

In the last ten to twenty years there has been distinct evidence of evolution in the nature of infectious diseases, which occurring in such a short space of time might even be considered revolutionary. Diseases caused by the agency of bacteria are disappearing and diminishing in virulence under attack by the sulphonamide drugs, penicillin and streptomycin; in the case of diphtheria through immunisation, and in the case of typhoid, dysentery and other allied bowel diseases through prevention by ensuring the purity of water supplies and cleanliness of food production and food handling. Pneumonia—a terrible killer—venereal diseases, puerperal sepsis, scarlet fever and sepsis in general can be cured if timely and adequately treated. Not only is cure more assured, but the incidence of bacterial diseases has diminished and so has their virulence.

The success of the battle against bacterial diseases has brought into prominence the infectious diseases caused by viruses. These are Infantile Paralysis (Anterior Poliomyelitis), Smallpox, Whooping Cough, Measles and Influenza, and no doubt a number of other diseases of doubtful causation. The nature of viruses is not certainly known, but they are much smaller than bacteria. When the battle with them is joined and won then man will be left to fight with his own nature, mental and physical, to reach the age of Methuselah.

A. MCINNES,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA AND STATISTICS.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	107,337
Population (Registrar-General's figures)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,990
Number of Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,284
Rateable Value (1st October)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£62,883
Product of a Penny Rate (1st October)	...	...	...	...	...	...	£259

Live Births.					<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	298	139	159
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	17	9	8
					315	148	167

Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.51
Rate per 1,000 Population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.9

Stillbirths.

A "stillbirth" is defined—"stillbirth and stillborn shall apply to any child which has issued forth from its mother after the 28th week of pregnancy which did not at any time after being completely expelled from its mother breathe or show any other signs of life."

					<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	3	3
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
					7	3	4

Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.39
Rate per 1,000 Population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.42

Deaths (All Causes).					<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>
					167	86	81

Death Rate per 1,000 Population	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.28
Death Rate per 1,000 Population (England and Wales)	...	...	...	...	...	...	10.8
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	NIL

Infant Mortality.

Oundle and Thrapston Rural District	...	...	...	...	25.4 per 1,000 births
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	34.0 per 1,000 births

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Death Rates.

YEAR.	OUNDLE AND THRAPSTON.			ENGLAND AND WALES.			NORTHAMPTON- SHIRE.	
1944	12.20	...	...	11.60	...	...	12.65	...
1945	12.30	...	...	11.40	...	...	12.34	...
1946	12.80	...	...	11.50	...	...	12.00	...
1947	12.26	...	...	12.00	...	...	12.43	...
1948	9.28	...	...	10.8	...	...	—	...

Birth Rates.

1944	20.20	...	...	17.60	...	...	20.07	...
1945	21.40	...	...	16.10	...	...	18.98	...
1946	17.50	...	...	19.10	...	...	19.17	...
1947	21.08	...	...	20.50	...	...	20.42	...
1948	17.51	...	...	17.9	...	...	—	...

Illegitimate Births.

There were 17 Illegitimate births assigned to the District in 1948 (9 males, 8 females).

Infant Mortality.

The number of infants who died before reaching their first birthday was 8 males, 5 females. One of the female deaths was of an illegitimate child.

SECTION B.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

(a) Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, Northampton, examine material submitted by general practitioners in the Area, and also carry out the bacteriological examination of water and other samples submitted from this district by the Sanitary Officers.

The County Laboratory carry out all examinations of milk samples by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests.

Chemical analyses of water supplies and presumptive B.Coli tests are carried out by the Public Analyst, Cambridge.

(b) Diphtheria Anti-Toxin.

A supply of anti-toxin is kept at the Council Offices at Oundle and Thrapston, the Kettering Isolation Hospital, the Rushden Sanatorium and the Doddington Road Hospital, Wellingborough.

(c) **Nursing in the Home.**

The arrangements are as follows :—

<i>Villages.</i>	<i>Telephone Number</i>
Apethorpe, King's Cliffe, Nassington, Woodnewton, Yarwell ...	King's Cliffe 237
Aldwinckle, Clapton, Lilford, Lowick, Pilton, Thorpe Achurch Titchmarsh, Wadenhoe	Clapton 22
Ashton, Barnwell, Benefield, Cotterstock, Fotheringhay, Glap- thorne, Hemington, Luddington, Lutton, Polebrooke, South- wick, Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Warmington	Oundle 3196
Brigstock, Sudborough	Brigstock 258
Bulwick, Blatherwycke, Deene, Deenethorpe, Fineshade, Har- ringworth, Laxton, Wakerley	Bulwick 207
Collyweston, Duddington, Easton-on-the-Hill	Stamford 2271
Chelveston	Rushden 2810
Hargrave	Raunds 43
Denford, Great Addington, Islip, Little Addington, Ringstead, Slipton, Thrapston, Twywell, Woodford	Thrapston 134 Thrapston 57 Raunds 149

(d) **Ambulances.**

The scheme of ambulance services now available under the National Health Service Act is :—

Islip Ambulance.—Aldwinckle, Clapton, Denford, Islip, Lowick, Sud-
borough, Slipton, Thrapston, Titchmarsh, Thorpe, Twywell, Woodford.

Oundle Ambulance.—Ashton, Apethorpe, Barnwell, Benefield, Cotter-
stock, Fotheringhay, Glapthorn, Hemington, King's Cliffe, Lilford,
Luddington, Lutton, Nassington, Pilton, Polebrooke, Southwick,
Stoke Doyle, Tansor, Thurning, Wadenhoe, Warmington, Woodnewton,
Yarwell.

Higham Ferrers Ambulance.—Chelveston-cum-Caldecott.

Irthlingborough Ambulance.—Great Addington, Little Addington.

Weldon Ambulance.—Blatherwycke, Brigstock, Bulwick, Deene, Deene-
thorpe, Fineshade, Harringworth, Laxton, Wakerley.

Raunds Ambulance.—Hargrave, Ringstead.

Reciprocal arrangements have been made with Kesteven County Council to supply from Stamford, the villages of Easton-on-the-Hill, Collyweston and Duddington.

Ambulance for Infectious Diseases.

Ambulances for the removal of infectious disease cases during 1948 were stationed at :—

- (i) Kettering Isolation Hospital. Tel. No. Kettering 3009.
- (ii) Wellingborough Isolation Hospital. Tel. No. Wellingborough 2081
- (iii) Northampton, Harborough Road. Tel. No. Northampton 1402.

By the beginning of 1949 Kettering and Wellingborough Isolation Hospitals were closed, that at Northampton alone remaining open. The number of Isolation Hospitals in the County was much in excess of requirements.

(e) **National Assistance Act, 1948.**

Section 47 of this Act, which came into operation on July 5th, 1948, confers on all Sanitary Authorities the power to remove to a suitable hospital or other place, persons who—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease, or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions ; and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention.

No formal action under this Act was required to be taken during the year, but in two instances informal steps were necessary to secure improvement in living conditions of the aged persons concerned.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The two Regional Schemes at Woodford and Barnwell have provided satisfactory supplies of water for 18 of the 51 parishes. During the year 23 samples of these supplies were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis. Of these, 22 were reported as being satisfactory, and 1 unsatisfactory. Four samples of the Brigstock main supply were taken for analysis, two being reported as satisfactory and two as showing a suspicious bacteriological count. None of the water supplies in the area have shown any tendency to plumbo-solvency.

During June 1948, work commenced on a scheme for supplying main water to the central parishes of Thorpe Achurch, Aldwincle, Wadenhoe, Pilton, Lilford and Stoke Doyle. This scheme, when complete, will make main water available to approximately a further five per cent. of the population of the district.

Water supply from Council or other mains is available to 68.8 per cent. of the total population of the area.

In parishes having piped water available, the number of houses with supplies from wells is still too high.

The following table indicates the sources of water supply to individual houses in the respective parishes :—

WATER SUPPLIES.

DETAILS OF SUPPLIES TO INDIVIDUAL HOUSES.

PARISH.	Total No. of Houses	Supply inside House			Supply outside House			
		Main	Pump	Gravity	Well	Stand- pipe	Gravity	Rain water
Aldwincle	109	—	17	6	81	—	4	1
Apethorpe	50	41	5	3	1	—	—	—
Ashton	52	42	4	—	6	—	—	—
Barnwell	119	67	1	—	27	24	—	—
Benefield	109	25	3	—	8	69	4	—
Blatherwycke	32	4	1	—	18	—	9	—
Brigstock	296	158	7	2	12	116	1	—
Bulwick	58	—	4	10	5	—	39	—
Chelveston	94	2	4	—	52	36	—	—
Clapton	40	24	—	—	11	5	—	—
Collyweston	128	—	13	—	103	2	10	—
Cotterstock... ..	38	—	9	—	29	—	—	—
Deene	41	—	15	—	8	17	1	—
Deenethorpe	26	—	1	—	25	—	—	—
Denford	103	32	1	—	17	47	—	6
Duddington	79	3	7	—	57	12	—	—
Easton-on-the-Hill	252	—	12	—	38	202	—	—
Fineshade	16	—	1	1	9	—	5	—
Fotheringhay	58	—	19	—	39	—	—	—
Glaphorn	81	—	9	1	71	—	—	—
Great Addington	79	27	2	—	14	34	2	—
Hargrave	70	26	—	—	1	43	—	—
Harringworth	66	—	2	10	9	—	45	—
Hemington	29	7	—	—	—	22	—	—
Islip	219	161	—	—	5	53	—	—
King's Cliffe	276	94	9	—	10	163	—	—
Laxton	31	—	9	1	10	8	3	—
Lilford	40	28	—	—	3	9	—	—
Little Addington	78	33	1	—	2	42	—	—
Lowick	90	2	1	29	20	—	38	—
Luddington	21	6	—	—	1	14	—	—
Lutton	41	25	2	—	1	13	—	—
Nassington	158	—	15	5	109	—	29	—
Pilton	25	—	4	1	7	13	—	—
Polebrooke	90	53	1	—	4	32	—	—
Ringstead	287	227	—	—	13	46	—	1
Southwick	50	3	10	1	31	—	5	—
Slipton	23	—	1	2	7	—	13	—
Stoke Doyle	27	—	5	—	22	—	—	—
Sudborough	64	—	8	19	2	—	33	2
Tansor	52	3	12	—	37	—	—	—
Thorpe Achurch	50	—	5	4	40	—	1	—
Thrapston	541	287	14	—	21	219	—	—
Thurning	38	20	—	—	2	16	—	—
Titchmarsh... ..	178	54	4	—	56	63	—	1
Twywell	126	32	2	—	15	77	—	—
Wadenhoe	47	—	2	5	39	—	—	1
Wakerley	35	—	6	—	13	16	—	—
Warmington	168	100	2	—	29	37	—	—
Woodford	389	264	1	4	5	114	—	—
Woodnewton	76	13	8	—	52	3	—	—
Yarwell	67	—	9	2	50	—	6	—

The following analysis reports are given :—

WOODFORD REGIONAL SCHEME.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled " Main Supply, standpipe, Great Addington after filtration and chlorination " received on the 14th January, 1948, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.2
The sample contained :						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	6.1
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0032
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0428
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.25
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C. = *nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C. = 9

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—21.68 (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,
Public Analyst.

19th January, 1948.

(b) Bacteriological Examinations.

Date.	Probable number of <i>coliform bacilli</i> MacConkey 2 days 37° C.			Probable number of <i>faecal coli</i> , MacConkey 2 days 44° C.			Remarks.
29. 9.48	2/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Satisfactory
6.10.48	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory
15.10.48	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory
27.10.48	0/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Very Satisfactory

BARNWELL REGIONAL SCHEME.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled " Regional Supply No. 2. Taken from standpipe " received on the 8th July, 1948, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.2
The sample contained :						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	5.75
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0014
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.0363
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.15
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C. = *nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C. = 1

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—21.68 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking puposes.

S. GREENBURGH,

Public Analyst.

13th July, 1948.

(b) Bacteriological Examinations.

Date.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.		Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.		Remarks.
10. 7.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
26. 7.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
6. 8.48	...	...	2/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Satisfactory
18. 9.49	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
13.10.48	...	...	2/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Satisfactory
27.10.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
3.11.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
10.11.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
9.12.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory

PUBLIC SUPPLY—THRAPSTON.

(b) Bacteriological Examinations.

Date.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.		Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.		Remarks
29. 9.48	...	...	8/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution
3.11.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
1.12.48	...	...	0/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Very Satisfactory
22.12.48	...	...	2/100	c.c.	...	0/100	c.c. ... Satisfactory

PUBLIC SUPPLY—BRIGSTOCK.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled " Brigstock Public Supply. Taken from a tap in High Street " received on the 15th March, 1948, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters Good
Reaction pH 7.2

The sample contained :— Parts per 100,000
Chlorine 2.9
Ammonia (Free and Saline) 0.0006
Ammonia (Albuminoid) 0.0010
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C. 0.0314
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen) 0.15
Nitrites absent
Poisonous Metals absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C.=nil

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C.=10

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—24.27 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample do not show any evidences of pollution with harmful organic or inorganic matter.

I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking purposes.

S. GREENBURGH,

Public Analyst.

19th March, 1948.

(b) Bacteriological Examination.

Date.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.			Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.	Remarks.
3.12.48	...	...	7/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollution

OTHER SUPPLIES.

(a) Chemical Examination.

Sample of Water labelled "Benefield Water Supply. Taken from inlet to reservoir" received on the 6th February, 1948, from Oundle and Thrapston Rural District Council.

Physical Characters	...	...	...	...	...	Good
Reaction	...	...	...	...	...	pH 7.2
The sample contained :—						Parts per 100,000
Chlorine	...	...	...	...	...	2.85
Ammonia (Free and Saline)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0018
Ammonia (Albuminoid)	...	...	...	...	...	0.0268
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hrs. at 37° C.	...	...	...	...	...	0.1282
Nitrates (expressed as Nitrogen)	...	...	...	...	...	0.40
Nitrites	...	...	...	...	...	absent
Poisonous Metals	...	...	...	...	...	absent

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Coliform organisms absent in 100 mls.

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 37° C. = *nil*

Number of micro-organisms per ml. developing on Agar at 21° C. = 14

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION OF DEPOSIT.

None.

TOTAL HARDNESS.—13.40 degrees (grains per gallon).

INFERENCE.—The results obtained on the analysis of this sample indicate a water of moderate hardness contaminated with organic matter which however does not appear to be of a harmful nature.

I am of opinion that this water is safe for drinking purposes. It is to be recommended, however, that continuous chlorination of the supply be maintained.

S. GREENBURGH,

Public Analyst.

11th February, 1948.

(b) Bacteriological Examinations.

Date.	Supply.			Probable number of coliform bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37° C.			Probable number of faecal coli MacConkey 2 days 44° C.	Remarks.
13. 8.48	... Apethorpe			2/100 c.c.	...	0/100	...	Satisfactory
9.12.48	... Sudborough			1800+/100 c.c.	...	300/100	...	Very unsatis- factory water with evidence of heavy faecal pollu- tion
22.12.48	... Easton	...		13/100 c.c.	...	0/100 c.c.	...	Suspicious count, but no evidence of faecal pollu- tion

Sewerage.

No works of improvement were carried out during the year, but preliminary steps were completed for commencing new works and sewers at King's Cliffe and improvements at Thrapston in 1949.

Public Cleansing.

House refuse collection was carried out during 1948 in the following parishes :—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Interval of Collection</i>
Thrapston... ..	Weekly
Woodford	"
Brigstock	Fortnightly
Collyweston	"
Denford	"
Duddington	"
Easton-on-the-Hill	"
Islip	"
King's Cliffe	"
Ringstead	"
Aldwinckle	Monthly
Apethorpe	"
Ashton	"
Barnwell	"
Benefield	"
Blatherwycke	"
Bulwick	"
Chelveston	"
Clapton	"
Cotterstock	"
Deene	"
Deenethorpe	"
Fineshade	"
Fotheringhay	"
Glaphorn	"
Great Addington	"
Hargrave	"
Harringworth	"
Hemington	"
Laxton	"
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe... ..	"
Little Addington	"
Lowick	"
Luddington	"
Lutton	"
Nassington	"
Pilton	"
Polebrooke	"
Southwick	"
Slipton	"
Stoke Doyle	"
Sudborough	"
Tansor	"
Thorpe Achurch	"
Thurning	"
Titchmarsh	"
Twywell	"
Wadenhoe	"
Wakerley	"
Warmington	"
Woodnewton	"
Yarwell	"

Shops and Offices.

Routine visits under the Shops Acts and Public Health Acts were carried out during the year. No statutory action was taken in any instance.

Camping Sites.

No area in the District is licensed as a site for camping purposes. Three licences authorising the use of moveable dwellings are in operation.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public swimming baths in this area.

Schools.

There are 38 schools in use in the district, of which only 16 are provided with main water supplies.

The primary reason for the absence of satisfactory supplies appears to be the lack of financial resources available to managers of the independent schools who are unable to carry out the necessary work. Representations have, however, been made to the Education Authorities, and it is hoped that this difficulty may be overcome.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

SUMMARY OF VISITS AND INSPECTIONS.

Public Health Acts.

Water Supplies	140
Infectious Diseases	40
Workplaces	23
Cinemas and Public Buildings	24
Miscellaneous Premises	96

Shop Acts.

Shops Act, 1934	16
------------------------	----

Factories Act, 1937.

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (made by Sanitary Inspectors.)

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (3)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (4)	<i>Written notices</i> (5)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	35	26	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	62	51	6	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	97	77	8	—

2.—Cases in which **Defects** were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	1	—	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	7	5	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	5	3	—	—	—
TOTAL	16	11	—	4	—

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The acute shortage of satisfactory housing accommodation remains one of the Council's major problems.

At the end of the year, 108 permanent houses had been built and 114 were under construction. The number of applicants for housing accommodation was 644.

During 1948 a complete survey of housing conditions in the area was completed. The following table gives a summary of the conditions of houses in the respective parishes :—

Parish	Total No. of houses	Category				
		I	II	III	IV	V
Aldwinche	109	23	19	35	9	23
Apethorpe	50	1	33	16	—	—
Ashton	52	4	30	17	—	1
Barnwell	107	9	16	72	—	10
Benefield... ..	108	1	3	98	—	6
Blatherwycke	32	1	1	30	—	—
Brigstock	296	105	54	52	—	85
Bulwick	58	5	5	46	—	2
Chelveston	94	30	13	28	1	22
Clapton	40	17	15	4	4	—
Collyweston	126	3	6	61	—	56
Cotterstock	38	2	7	27	—	2
Deene	42	1	1	33	—	7
Deenethorpe	26	—	—	22	—	4
Denford	103	23	31	20	2	27
Duddington	67	1	6	41	—	19
Easton-on-the-Hill	252	3	14	144	—	91
Fineshade	16	1	—	15	—	—
Fotheringhay	58	7	11	34	—	6
Glapthorn	81	7	10	41	—	23
Great Addington	79	24	18	19	2	16
Hargrave	70	18	8	21	5	18
Harringworth	66	3	2	53	—	8
Hemington	29	1	—	25	—	3
Islip	219	86	50	47	1	35
King's Cliffe	276	10	17	173	—	76
Laxton	30	1	2	25	—	2
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe	40	11	16	6	7	—
Little Addington	78	20	15	16	2	25
Lowick	90	19	29	31	3	8
Luddington	21	5	11	5	—	—
Lutton	40	2	4	20	—	14
Nassington	158	4	25	70	1	58
Pilton	25	5	8	8	1	3
Polebrook	90	1	17	55	—	17
Ringstead	287	128	57	66	—	36
Southwick	50	2	3	43	—	2
Slipton	23	4	5	4	5	5
Stoke Doyle	27	2	1	24	—	—
Sudborough	64	16	18	20	1	9
Tansor	52	1	6	30	—	15
Thorpe Achurch	50	5	16	16	13	—
Thrapston	541	187	105	231	—	18
Thurning	38	10	8	11	1	8
Titchmarsh	178	41	49	34	3	51
Twywell	126	20	45	22	—	39
Wadenhoe	47	6	22	5	6	8
Wakerley	35	2	2	23	—	8
Warmington	168	7	43	112	—	6
Woodford	389	157	59	120	3	50
Woodnewton	76	8	6	38	—	24
Yarwell	67	2	11	36	—	18
TOTALS	5284	1052	953	2245	70	964

NOTES :—

Category I houses are satisfactory in all respects.

Category II houses have minor defects.

Category III houses require repair, structural alterations or improvement.

Category IV houses are agricultural cottages appropriate for reconditioning.

Category V houses are unfit for human habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense.

Of the 964 houses in Category V it is to be understood that the Public Health Officials are prepared to go to any inquiry and give evidence that these houses should be condemned as unfit for human habitation. No note has been taken of overcrowding, which, after all, is rare in the district, nor has note been taken of the splitting of a family by the marriage of a son or daughter. These are variable factors and are difficult to estimate. Let it be sufficient unto the day that 964 houses are considered to be unfit for human habitation. Of the 964, 50 are unoccupied or derelict, and no doubt there are some that could be rendered fit by the free expenditure of money, but this can appeal only to the owner-occupier.

These returns will assure that there is no fear of overbuilding, and can form a basis for a housing policy over a number of years.

The amenities shown to be provided in houses are as follow :—

<i>Parish</i>	<i>No. of Houses</i>	<i>Bath</i>	<i>CLOSET ACCOMMODATION</i>				<i>Satisfactory Sink</i>
			<i>Pail</i>	<i>Privy</i>	<i>Water Closet</i>	<i>Flush Closet</i>	
Aldwincle ...	109	14	84	12	13	—	39
Apethorpe ...	50	26	14	—	36	—	50
Ashton ...	52	41	8	—	44	—	46
Barnwell ...	119	39	83	—	36	—	67
Benefield ...	109	14	92	—	17	—	33
Blatherwycke...	32	4	21	7	4	—	6
Brigstock ...	296	92	90	—	133	73	191
Bulwick ...	58	12	50	2	6	—	21
Chelveston ...	94	6	68	—	7	19	47
Clapton ...	40	4	33	—	7	—	19
Collyweston ...	128	17	125	—	3	—	54
Cotterstock ...	38	6	32	—	6	—	12
Deene ...	41	8	31	2	8	—	16
Deenethorpe ...	26	2	21	4	1	—	5
Denford ...	103	14	61	1	21	20	42
Duddington ...	79	1	72	1	6	—	37
Easton-on-the-Hill ...	252	17	242	—	10	—	87
Fineshade ...	16	2	14	—	2	—	6
Fotheringhay ...	58	17	38	2	18	—	20
Glaphthorn ...	81	22	69	7	5	—	31
Great Addington ...	79	18	58	—	19	2	40
Hargrave ...	70	17	54	—	16	—	26
Harringworth...	66	4	62	—	4	—	22
Hemington ...	29	3	25	—	4	—	7
Islip ...	219	82	11	3	132	73	148
King's Cliffe ...	276	56	223	18	35	—	107
Laxton ...	31	7	24	—	7	—	10
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe...	40	14	30	2	8	—	28
Little Addington ...	78	16	46	1	24	7	45
Lowick ...	90	12	63	—	15	12	49
Luddington ...	21	3	17	—	4	—	6
Lutton ...	41	7	29	6	6	—	16
Nassington ...	158	21	144	3	11	—	55
Pilton ...	25	4	13	10	2	—	9
Polebrook ...	90	21	62	1	27	—	51
Ringstead ...	287	126	2	2	231	52	230
Southwick ...	50	6	44	—	6	—	23
Slipton ...	23	4	21	—	2	—	11
Stoke Doyle ...	27	3	24	—	3	—	7
Sudborough ...	64	13	48	—	15	1	33
Tansor... ..	52	8	44	—	8	—	20
Thorpe Achurch	50	7	42	3	3	2	23
Thrapston ...	541	238	7	—	371	163	319
Thurning ...	38	5	35	1	2	—	20
Titchmarsh ...	178	35	94	57	22	5	71
Twywell ...	126	16	52	6	23	45	47
Wadenhoe ...	47	5	40	2	5	—	10
Wakerley ...	35	4	30	—	5	—	6
Warmington ...	168	38	131	13	24	—	115
Woodford ...	389	114	6	—	379	4	288
Woodnewton ...	76	7	71	—	5	—	32
Yarwell ...	67	10	57	2	8	—	33

The following is a Summary of housing work carried out during the year :—

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.		
1. (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	612
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	724
2. (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925/32	208
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose... ..	296
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	} See detailed table.
4.	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	
2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices.		
	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	95
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.		
A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
2.	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	—
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—		
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	—
2.	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	—
	(b) By local authority in default of owners	—
C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which demolition orders were made, or an undertaking accepted	—
2.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of demolition orders	—
D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—		
1.	Number of separate tenement or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	—
2.	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
4. Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.		
No detailed overcrowding survey was carried out during the year.		

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1938, has been administered during the year within the restrictions imposed by lack of labour and materials required for structural alterations. Occupiers of food premises being brought into use for the first time have readily adopted standards required for ensuring good hygienic conditions. Many structural alterations, however, are necessary in existing premises, and these are being enforced as circumstances allow.

The methods adopted in the production and distribution of food have shown that there is need for improvement in the standards of food handling. This is a difficulty which can be overcome mainly by the education of employees in personal hygiene and its relation to food and drink infections.

The following are details of food premises in the district :—

Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	23
General Food Shops	...	...	...	...	...	59
Catering Houses	...	...	...	...	...	26
Restaurants and Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	6
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	7
Total						128

Milk Supply.

The number of premises in the district registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations is :—

Total number of Dairies	...	...	...	205
Dairies producing Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	...	31
Dairies producing Accredited Milk	...	...	...	38

Samples of milk taken during the course of delivery have been submitted at regular intervals to the County Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

The results of samples taken during the year were :—

Total.	Good.	Moderate.	Bad.
134	101	12	21

Three samples of pasteurised milk sold in the district were examined by the phosphatase test. Each of these samples was satisfactory.

There are no milk pasteurising plants in this area.

Meat and Food Inspection.

The Ministry of Food Abattoirs at Peterborough, Kettering and Rushden, slaughter animals intended for food in this area. All meat passing through these abattoirs is inspected by the Sanitary Officers concerned. No unsound carcase meat has been offered for sale. Attention is again directed to the insanitary methods of bulk transport of meat arriving at butchers' premises in the district. Delivery vehicles are overloaded, meat is not satisfactorily packed, and the clothing worn by personnel is unsuitable.

The conditions under which fish arrive at the railway depots in wooden crates leaves much to be desired.

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

Food and Drugs Act Inspections.

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	246
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	16
Food preparing Places	...	...	...	...	...	73
Ice-Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	27
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	37

Unsound Food.

The following foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption and destroyed :—

Meat (tinned or preserved)	...	...	...	20 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	393 lbs.
Cheese	...	...	...	32 lbs.
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	99 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs.
Total weight : 4 cwts. 96 lbs. 12 ozs.				

Ice-Cream.

There are 6 producers of ice-cream in the district, the method of manufacture in each case being by mixing under prescribed conditions, a pre-packed ice-cream powder with water, by the use of the " cold mix " process. There are no ice-cream heat-treatment plants in operation.

There are 17 premises from which ice-cream is sold, and also numerous travelling vendors.

Considerable improvement has been effected in the bacteriological quality of ice-cream, compared with the previous year. No faecal coli were detected in any sample, and the bacteriological plate counts were greatly reduced.

All bacteriological examinations of this food are carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following tables indicate the nature of the various diseases, and the parishes of origin :—

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Polio-Encephalitis	Puerperal Pyrexia	Dysentery
Aldwincle ...	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
Apethorpe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ashton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Barnwell ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Benefield ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blatherwycke ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Brigstock ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bulwick ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chelveston ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Clapton ...	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—
Collyweston ...	—	—	1	—	2	10	—	—	—
Cotterstock ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deene ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Deenethorpe ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Denford ...	—	—	—	—	25	—	—	—	—
Duddington ...	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—
Easton-on-the Hill ...	1	—	—	—	2	4	—	—	—
Fineshade ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fotheringhay ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glaphorn ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Great Addington ...	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—
Hargrave ...	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
Harringworth ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Hemington ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Islip ...	2	—	3	—	19	—	—	—	—
King's Cliffe ...	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—
Laxton ...	1	—	1	—	1	4	—	—	—
Lilford-cum-Wigsthorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Little Addington ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Lowick ...	—	—	2	1	22	—	—	—	—
Luddington ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Lutton ...	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Nassington ...	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—
Pilton ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Polebrook ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ringstead ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Southwick ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slipton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stoke Doyle ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sudborough ...	—	—	—	1	8	8	—	—	—
Tansor ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thorpe Achurch ...	—	—	1	—	12	—	—	—	—
Thrapston ...	1	—	2	1	91	—	—	1	—
Thurning ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Titchmarsh ...	—	—	1	—	41	—	—	—	—
Twywell ...	3	—	—	—	28	—	—	—	—
Wadenhoe ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Wakerley ...	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	—
Warmington ...	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—
Woodford ...	—	—	—	—	33	—	—	—	—
Woodnewton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Yarwell ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	14	—	15	3	368	31	—	1	—

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

(Other than Tuberculosis) 1948.

<i>Disease</i>	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
Scarlet Fever ...	—	4	4	1	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Measles ...	52	62	135	65	18	9	15	—	9	3	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—	1	6	6	—	4	1	2	—	—	3
Pneumonia ...	3	—	—	4	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	4
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	64	66	140	77	30	10	19	2	14	3	—	7

The Registered Causes of Death were :—

	Male	Female	Total
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria... ...	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis—Respiratory ...	1	2	3
7. Tuberculosis—Other Forms ...	—	1	1
8. Syphilitic Diseases ...	—	—	—
9. Influenza ...	—	—	—
10. Measles ...	—	—	—
11. Acute Poliomyelitis : Polio Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
12. Acute Infectious Encephalitis ...	—	—	—
13. Cancer of Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus ...	3	1	4
14. Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum ...	6	1	7
15. Cancer of Breast ...	—	5	5
16. Cancer of all other Sites ...	6	7	13
17. Diabetes ...	—	—	—
18. Inter-Cranial Vascular Lesion ...	7	8	15
19. Heart Disease ...	25	28	53
20. Other Diseases of Circulation ...	2	—	2
21. Bronchitis ...	6	3	9
22. Pneumonia ...	1	2	3
23. Other Respiratory Diseases ...	3	1	4
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	—	—	—
25. Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
26. Appendicitis ...	—	—	—
27. Other Digestive Disorders ...	4	1	5
28. Nephritis ...	4	3	7
29. Puerperal and Post Abortive Sepsis ...	—	—	—
30. Other Maternal Causes ...	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth ...	2	2	4
32. Congenital Malformation : Birth Injury ...	—	—	—
Infantile Disorder	1	2	3
33. Suicide ...	2	—	2
34. Road Traffic Accidents ...	1	—	1
35. Other Violent Causes ...	—	2	2
36. All other Causes ...	12	12	24
	86	81	167

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1948.

Welfare Authority : Northants. County Council.

I. IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948.

	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939 1943	1934 1938	Total under 5	Total 5- 15	Total under 15
Number of Births (less Deaths under 1 year of age)	307	340	290	346	340	1323	1028	1623	2351	3974
Estimated mid-year Population :—										
1945	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1490	2400	3890
1946	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1500	2330	3830
1947	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1540	2290	3830
1948	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1610	2425	4035
Immunised at 31/12/48	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14			
Age at 31/12/48										
Number	8	229	214	213	237	1154	1293	901	2447	3548
Percentage of Births less 1 year Deaths	2.6	67	74	61	70	87	125	56	104	90
Percentage of Estimated Child Population	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56	101	88

Unreality comes into this table in the group aged 10-15 years, when the number immunised is shown as 25 % more than the likely number of this age group in the population. This does vitiate, but to a less extent, the numbers in the group 5-15 years and, of course, the whole group under fifteen. The age group 10-15 is the very group likely to contain the greater number of children evacuated to the district during the war. The swelling of the lists at this age is very likely due to the register still containing the names of children who have removed home. Nevertheless, it can be reasonably be affirmed that 75 % to 80 % of the children in the district under the age of 15 years have been immunised. If those under one year were excluded from the under fifteen group, this group would show an immunisation rate of 68 % instead of 56 %. It is believed that the national figures are 75 % of those 5-15 years and 58 % of those in the second, third, fourth and fifth years of life.

II. DIPHTHERIA NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS IN RELATION TO IMMUNISATION.

Deaths are those finally registered in the Authority's area after allowing for inward and outward transfers.

Notifications.			Deaths.		
Age at Date of Notification	Number of cases Notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation	Age at date of Death	Number of Deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
Under 1	0	—	Under 1	0	—
1	0	—	1	0	—
2	0	—	2	0	—
3	0	—	3	0	—
4	0	—	4	0	—
5 to 9	0	—	5 to 9	0	—
10 to 14	0	—	10 to 14	0	—
Totals	0	—	Totals	0	—

NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1948.

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>
—1	—	—	—	—
—5	—	—	—	—
—15	—	—	—	2
—25	—	2	—	—
—35	1	—	—	—
—45	2	—	—	—
—55	1	1	—	—
—65	—	—	—	—
65+	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	4	3	—	2

NUMBER OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS ON THE REGISTER, DECEMBER 31st, 1948.

<i>Pulmonary</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		
<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
38	29	67	11	23	34

